

2005-06 HONOLULU CHARTER COMMISSION
CHARTER AMENDMENT PROPOSAL FORM

1. Provide a brief description of the purpose of the proposed charter amendment; include a description of the problem the proposal would address and how the proposal would address the problem:

The purpose of this proposed charter amendment is to more specifically and accurately describe the duties of the director of Emergency Services and the Department of Emergency Services.

Further, this proposal would identify the Emergency Medical Services Division of the Honolulu Emergency Services Department as the pre-hospital medical experts for the City and County of Honolulu and recognize the Department's role in injury prevention.

This proposal would address the significant number of emergencies that Ocean Safety Division personnel are trained, equipped, and regularly respond to outside of City Parks.

These emergencies include ocean and shoreline emergencies related to Tsunami events; tropical storms, hurricanes, high surf, boating, kayaking, outrigger canoes, rough water swims, scuba, aircraft, helicopters, sharks, box jellyfish, beached whales, and numerous other activities that lead to the need for emergency rescue and medical care in the near shore waters of the City and County of Honolulu.

2. If applicable, list the charter provision(s) proposed to be deleted or amended:

Section 6-603, RCH.

3. If the proposal is based on a provision or provisions in the charter or law of another jurisdiction, name the jurisdiction and, if possible, attach a copy of the relevant provision(s).

NA

4. If the proposal is based on any written materials you have, please attach a copy with a citation to its source.

NA

5. Attach the text of the proposed charter amendment in Ramseyer format (see below).

Ramseyer Format:

If proposing an amendment to existing Charter provisions, indicate, by underscoring, any language being proposed to be added to the Charter and indicate, by bracketing, any language being proposed to be deleted from the Charter.

Section 6-603. Powers, Duties and Functions –

The director of emergency services shall:

- (a) Develop programs and [deliver services related to emergency medical services.] provide emergency medical care in order to save lives and serve as the pre-hospital medical experts for the City and County of Honolulu.
- (b) Provide training and educational programs related to emergency medical services and injury prevention.
- (c) Be responsible for [ocean safety training and operations in city parks] performing ocean rescue work in order to save lives from emergencies arising on the beach and in the near shore waters of the City and County of Honolulu.
- (d) Be responsible for ocean safety training and operations and function as ocean safety experts.
- (e) Provide educational and risk reduction programs related to ocean safety.

~~[(d)]~~(f) Perform such duties as may be required by law.

(1992 General Election Charter Amendment Question No. 16; 1998 Reorganization)